

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05820 221459 Z

45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 EA-11 ADP-00 NIC-01 ACDA-19 GAC-01 EB-11

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 AID-20 OMB-01 IGA-02

IO-12 RSR-01 /179 W

----- 130570

R 221439 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8961

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY KATMANDU

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 5820

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, AF

SUBJECT: PODGORNYY PLUGS ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY IN
AFGHANISTAN

1. SUMMARY: AS PODGORNYY BEGINS HIS AFGHANISTAN VISIT, WE
ARE STRUCK BY EMPHASIS WHICH HE PLACED ON ASIAN COLLECTIVE
SECURITY IN HIS SPEECH AT MAY 21 STATE DINNER. HE DEVOTED
HALF HIS SPEECH TO SUBJECT AND CAME CLOSE TO ACKNOWLEDGING
THAT SOVIET PROPOSAL HAS ANTI- CHINESE THRUST. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO PRAVDA TEXT OF SPEECH, PODGORNYY GAVE
LENGTHY EXPOSITION OF NEED FOR " SYSTEM" OF COLLECTIVE
SECURITY IN ASIA. THIS PROBLEM, HE ASSERTED, IS " COMPLEX"
BUT " FULLY RIPENED" AND " ACHIEVABLE." THE SOVIET UNION IS
" SINCERELY" PREPARED TO COOPERATE WITH OTHER STATES IN ITS
REALIZATION AND BELIEVES THAT SUCH A SYSTEM IS IN INTEREST
OF ALL ASIAN PEOPLES AND INTERNATIONAL PEACDPM
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 05820 221459 Z

PYOZTHPEVIEWING THREE PRINCIPAL TROUBLESPOTS IN ASIA, PODGORNYY CHARACTERIZED ARAB- ISRAELI CONFLICT AS " ONE OF MOST DANGEROUS," INDOCHINA AS PROVIDING GROUNDS FOR HOPING THAT " PROBLEMS EXISTING THERE WILL FIND THEIR OWN SOLUTION," AND SUBCONTINENT AS " STEADILY MOVING TOWARD FURTHER NORMALIZATION." ASIAN CONFLICTS ARE LEGACY OF IMPERIALISM , AND IMPERIALISTS CONTINUED TO RESIST PEACE IN ASIA. MOREOVER, " CERTAIN ADVENTURIST CIRCLES ARE ACTING IN UNISON WITH IMPERIALISTS, AND PROCEEDING FROM HEGEMONISTIC ASPIRATIONS LAY CLAIM TO A LEADING ROLE IN ASIA AND SEEK TO SHARPEN RELATIONS BETWEEN STATES, THEREBY INTERFERING WITH NORMALIZATION OF INTERNATIONAL SITUATION."

4. COMMENT: PROMINENCE OF COLLECTIVE SECURITY THEME IN PODGORNYY'S SPEECH SUGGESTS HE WILL SEEK AFGHAN ENDORSEMENT OF SOVIET PROPOSAL, PROBABLY BY MEANS OF FORMULATION IN FINAL COMMUNIQUE SIMILAR TO OR EVEN STRONGER THAN ONE CONTAINED IN COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING KOSYGIN'S VISIT TO IRAN LAST MARCH. FULMINATION AGAINST " ADVENTURIST CIRCLES" COMES VERY CLOSE TO ADMITTING POTENTIAL ANTI- CHINESE THRUST OF " SYSTEM" OF ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY, WHICH IS SOMETHING SOVIETS HAVE STUDIOUSLY AVOIDED IN PAST. THIS, OF COURSE, PUTS AFGHANISTAN ON SPOT BOTH AS REGARDS ITS GENERAL POLICY OF NONALIGNMENT, EARLIER REAFFIRMED BY KING, AND ITS SPECIFIC POLICY OF MAINTAINING BALANCE BETWEEN USSR AND CHINA. DESPITE HIS LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY, PODGORNYY DID NOT DEVELOP IDEA BEYOND EARLIER SOVIET LEADERSHIP FORMULATIONS OF " SYSTEM" AS GENERAL SET OF PRINCIPLES FOR GOVERNING BEHAVIOR BETWEEN ASIAN STATES. HIS FAILURE TO ALLUDE PUSHTU PROBLEM, RAISED BY KING IN HIS SPEECH AT STATE DINNER, REFLECTS SOVIET DESIRE TO KEEP THIS ISSUE FROM BECOMING NEW LOCUS OF REGIONAL TENSIONS IN ASIA. DUBS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MOSCOW05820
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730552/aaaajqmd.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <30-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980227
Subject: PODGORNYY PLUGS ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY IN AFGHANISTAN
TAGS: PFOR, AF, UR
To: EUR
ISLAMABAD
KABUL
KATMANDU
LONDON
NEW DELHI
SECSTATE WASHDC

TEHRAN

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005